AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): A transfer method for applying a magnetic field for transfer, comprising bringing a master carrier for magnetic transfer into close contact with a slave medium and applying a DC magnetic field whereby information is transferred,

said master carrier comprising a magnetic layer deposited to correspond to the information to be transferred, said magnetic layer being formed on a surface of a substrate, and said slave medium being a magnetic recording medium to receive the transferred information, wherein relative magnetic permeability of the magnetic layer of the master carrier for magnetic transfer is within the range of 10 - 1000.

2. (original): The transfer method according to claim 1, wherein relative permeability of the magnetic layer of the master carrier for magnetic transfer is within the range of 50 - 500.

3. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 1, wherein the master carrier further comprises a transfer information recording portion having a coercive force, H_c, of not more than 198.9 kA/m.

4. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 3, wherein the master carrier further comprises a transfer information recording portion having a coercive force, H_c, of 0.397 to 119.4 kA/m.

5. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 1, wherein the master carrier further comprises a transfer information recording portion having a saturation magnetic flux density, Bs, of not less than 0.3 T.

6. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 5, wherein the master carrier further comprises a transfer information recording portion having a saturation magnetic flux density, Bs, of not less than 0.5 T.

7. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 1, wherein the master carrier further comprises a transfer information recording portion having a coercive force, H_c, of not more than 198.9 kA/m and a saturation magnetic flux density, Bs, of not less than 0.3 T.

8. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 1, wherein the magnetic layer is selected from the group consisting of cobalt, iron, alloys of cobalt and alloys of iron.

9. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 8, wherein the magnetic layer is selected from the group consisting of FeCo, FeNi, FeNiMo, CoNb, CoNbZr, FeSiAl, and FeTaN.

10. (currently amended): The transfer method according to Claim 1, wherein the magnetic layer is selected from the group consisting of FeCo in ~~a weight~~ an atomic ratio of 70:30 and FeNiMo in ~~a weight~~ an atomic ratio of 75:20:5.

11. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 3, wherein the transfer information recording portion has a diamond-like carbon protective film formed thereon, having a hardness of 10 GPa.

12. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 11, wherein the diamond-like carbon protective film has a thickness of 3-30 nm.

13. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 11, wherein the diamond-like carbon protective film has a lubricant thereon.

14. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 13, wherein the lubricant layer comprises an organic fluorine compound containing a perfluoroalkyl group.

15. (currently amended): The transfer method according to Claim ~~11~~13, wherein the lubricant is formed in a layer ~~has~~having a thickness of 1-10 nm.

16. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 1, wherein the slave medium comprises synthetic resin film as a base material.

17. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 16 wherein the synthetic resin film is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polyethylene naphthalate, aramide, polyimide and polyphenylene benzbisoxazale.

18. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 1, wherein the magnetic layer is a material made of ferromagnetic metal thin film.

19. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 1, wherein the magnetic layer is produced at a substrate temperature of 25°C and at an argon gas pressure of 0.13 to 0.40 Pa.

20. (previously presented): The transfer method according to Claim 2, wherein the master carrier has a maximum reproduction intensity ratio of 1 and an error ratio of 0 %.

21. (previously presented): A method of producing a magnetic recording medium having recorded data, the method comprising the steps of:

bringing a master carrier for magnetic transfer into close contact with a slave medium to form a conjoined body, and applying a DC magnetic field to said conjoined body to transfer said data to said slave medium, thereby obtaining the magnetic recording medium having recorded data,

said master carrier comprising a magnetic layer deposited to correspond to said data to be transferred, said magnetic layer being formed on a surface of a substrate, and said slave medium being the magnetic recording medium to receive said transferred data, wherein relative magnetic permeability of said magnetic layer of said master carrier is within the range of 10 to 1000.

22. (previously presented): The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of applying an initial magnetic field to said slave medium to magnetize said magnetic recording medium in a direction opposite to the direction of said DC magnetic field prior to the step of applying said DC magnetic field to said conjoined body.

23. (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein relative magnetic permeability of said magnetic layer of said master carrier is within the range of 50 to 500.

24. (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein the master carrier further comprises a transfer information recording portion having a coercive force, H_c, of not more than 198.9 kA/m.

25. (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein the master carrier further comprises a transfer information recording portion having a saturation magnetic flux density, Bs, of not less than 0.3 T.

26. (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein the magnetic layer is selected from the group consisting of cobalt, iron, alloys of cobalt and alloys of iron.

27. (currently amended): The method of claim 22, wherein the magnetic layer is selected from the group consisting of FeCo in ~~a weight~~ an atomic ratio of 70:30 and FeNiMo in ~~a weight~~ an atomic ratio of 75:20:5.

28. (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the transfer information recording portion has a diamond-like carbon protective film formed thereon, having a hardness of 10 GPa.

29. (previously presented): The method of claim 28, wherein the diamond-like carbon protective film has a thickness of 3-30 nm.

30. (previously presented): The method of claim 28, wherein the diamond-like carbon protective film has a lubricant thereon.

31. (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein the slave medium comprises synthetic resin film as a base material.

32. (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein the magnetic layer is a material made of ferromagnetic metal thin film.